

Appln. No.: 10/019,919

Amendment Dated: February 25, 2004

Reply to Office action of December 2, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 12-32 remain in the application.

A new terminal disclaimer is submitted herewith signed by the undersigned attorney of record to overcome the double patenting rejection.

Applicant confirms the previous election of generic claims 12-22 and species claims 23 and 24. Applicants understand that the non-elected claims 25-32 stand withdrawn until a generic claim is allowed.

All of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 have been overcome by amendment. The antecedent for "mounting" has been clarified by adding the word - -hub- -. The rejection of "each associated" has been overcome by deletion of the phrase.

The claims were previously rejected under 35 USC § 102 over U.S. Patent 6,305,510 to Bunker. The claims have been amended to more clearly distinguish over Bunker. As recited on original page 4 on lines 22 et. seq., the independence of the spring relative to the mounting hub results in negligible interaction between the spring and the mounting hub axially since the spring slides axially with the disc. Accordingly, the claims have been amended to make it clear that the resilient device is attached to the disc independently of the mounting hub for axial movement of the resilient device with the disc independently of the mounting hub. This is contrary to the prior art, including Bunker '510, wherein the resilient spring device is attached to the mounting hub. In Bunker '510, the leaf spring **62** is attached to the mounting hub by tabs **64** and is axially moveable relative to the disk **14** as the disk **14** slide axially along the rollers **46**. Alternatively, the springs **34** are secured to the hub **12** by screws **36**. As the lead-in description of the subject application sets forth, the claimed invention herein is limited to the attachment of the resilient devices or springs to the disks

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instead of to the mounting hub whereby the resilient devices are free to move axially with the disks independently of the mounting hub.

Accordingly, since all of the claims distinguish over the references by reciting such a combination, the claims, as amended, are now in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2789 for any additional fees and or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted

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February 25, 2004

Date

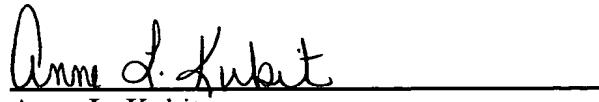
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **Amendment** for U.S. Serial No.: 10/019,919 filed April 19, 2002 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on **February 25, 2004**.


Anne L. Kubit

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